

Crab Culture

The Department has initiated Mangrove Crab Pen Culture as a pilot project at Estuarine Fish Farm, Ela, Old Goa in the year 2016-17. The pens are constructed using the locally available bamboo splits or areca nut logs or cane. These strips should be driven 1-1.5 m deep into the soil to keep the crabs inside and the potential predators outside. Roughly 1000 to 1500 crabs of 100 g each could be stocked per pen. The crab could be fed once a day during high tide with low-cost fishes, mussels, clams, snails, etc. ***Scylla serrata* is the common mud crab occurring in the estuarine and mangrove areas and is commonly called as “Mud crab” and it prefers to live in low saline waters.** In this method, juvenile crabs (10 g to 250 g) are stocked and allowed to moult and grow. Harvest is done after 3-8 months or once the crab reaches 400 g.

